

## CLAIMS

1. In a system including a plurality of property values of a plurality of signal nets in an integrated circuit, a computer-implemented method comprising steps of:

- (A) identifying a reference value  $r$ ; and
- (B) for each property value  $S$  in the plurality of property values, performing steps of:
  - (1) determining whether property value  $S$  differs from reference value  $r$  by more than a predetermined amount; and
  - (2) notifying a user of the system if it is determined that the property value  $S$  differs from the reference value  $r$  by more than the predetermined amount.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (A) comprises a step of selecting the reference value  $r$  from among the plurality of property values.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (B) (2) comprises a step of notifying the user of the difference between property value  $S$  and reference value  $r$ .

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of path lengths of the plurality of signal nets.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of propagation delays of the plurality of signal nets.

6. In a system including a plurality of property values of a plurality of signal nets in an integrated circuit, a computer-implemented method comprising steps of:

- (A) identifying a reference value  $r$ ; and
- (B) for each property value  $S$  in the plurality of property values, performing steps of:
  - (1) identifying a difference  $D$  between property value  $S$  and reference value  $r$ ; and
  - (2) notifying a user of the system of the difference  $D$ .

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step (A) comprises a step of selecting the reference value  $r$  from among the plurality of property values.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the step (A) comprises a step of selecting the maximum of the plurality of property values as the reference value  $r$ .

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of path lengths of the plurality of signal nets.

10. The method of claim 6, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of propagation delays of the plurality of signal nets.

11. A system comprising:

a computer-readable medium tangibly embodying a plurality of property values of a plurality of signal nets in an integrated circuit; and

a net property synthesizer comprising:

means for identifying a reference value  $r$ ; and  
for each property value  $S$  in the plurality of  
property values:

means for determining whether property value  
 $S$  differs from reference value  $r$  by more than a  
predetermined amount; and

means for notifying a user of the system if  
it is determined that the property value  $S$   
differs from the reference value  $r$  by more than  
the predetermined amount.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the means for  
identifying the reference value  $r$  comprises means for  
selecting the reference value  $r$  from among the plurality  
of property values.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the means for  
notifying the user comprises means for notifying the user  
of the difference between property value  $S$  and reference  
value  $r$ .

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the plurality of  
property values comprises a plurality of path lengths of  
the plurality of signal nets.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the plurality of  
property values comprises a plurality of propagation  
delays of the plurality of signal nets.

16. A system comprising:  
a computer-readable medium tangibly embodying a plurality of property values of a plurality of signal nets in an integrated circuit; and  
a net property synthesizer comprising:  
means for identifying a reference value  $r$ ; and  
for each property value  $S$  in the plurality of property values:  
means for identifying a difference  $D$  between property value  $S$  and reference value  $r$ ; and  
means for notifying a user of the system of the difference  $D$ .

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the means for identifying the reference value  $r$  comprises means for selecting the reference value  $r$  from among the plurality of property values.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein the means for identifying the reference value  $r$  comprises means for selecting the maximum of the plurality of property values as the reference value  $r$ .

19. The system of claim 16, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of path lengths of the plurality of signal nets.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the plurality of property values comprises a plurality of propagation delays of the plurality of signal nets.